

**TECHNIQUE FOR MEASURING SMALL DISTANCES BETWEEN,  
AND FOR MEASURING THE FLATNESS OF, ELECTRICALLY  
CONDUCTIVE SURFACES**

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for measuring the distance between first and second proximately disposed electrically conductive surfaces is provided in which the force exerted between the first and second surfaces is measured to obtain an exerted force value. A separation distance between the first and second  
10 surfaces is determined as a function of the exerted force value.

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